

of the Confederacy and lament its defeat, which spelled slavery's extinction. As Missouri's attorney general, Ashcroft fought desegregation orders in that state. He was a vigorous opponent of affirmative action. As senator, he single handedly scuttled the nomination of a black Missouri judge to the federal bench—an act which President Clinton properly denounced as “disgraceful,” illustrating the unequal treatment of minority and women nominees.

As senator, Ashcroft decried the cherished American principle of separation of church and state, railed against common-sense gun control legislation and, like Bork, denounced Roe vs. Wade. Thus, like Bork, the question is whether he can faithfully enforce and promote laws to which is so deeply opposed.

All of this is in sharp contrast to the three of us Clinton nominees whose sin was fidelity to existing law. In 1993, today's supporters of Ashcroft derailed the nomination of those of us who supported the law. Now they support those who would radically transform it.

Some deference to a new president's nomination is appropriate. This was not followed in the Clinton era. As a result, the president was obliged to nominate middle-of-the-road and sometimes downright innocuous judicial candidates and to accept Republican selections for his own administrative agencies.

No one's interests are served if the Democrats now wreak havoc for Bush in response to the Borking visited upon Clinton. But elected representatives have the right and duty to both scrutinize and reject nominees who are out of the mainstream and who would disturb precedent in the absence of a mandate. A half-million Gore plurality in the voting and the murkiness of the Florida ballot hardly supply a mandate for George W. Bush.

WASTEFUL GOVERNMENT SPENDING

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. DUNCAN Mr. Speaker, I believe that one of the most serious problems facing our country today is wasteful government spending. Each year our government spends billions of taxpayer dollars on things that are ineffective and simply unnecessary.

I have heard many stories from federal employees about the pressure to spend all of the money they have been appropriated for a given fiscal year. Agency administrators know that if they have a surplus at the end of the fiscal year, it is likely that their budgets will be cut the following year.

That is why I have decided to introduce legislation to address this problem. This bill will allow government agencies to keep half of any unspent administrative funds. This money can then be used to pay for employee bonuses. The remaining half would be returned to the Treasury for the purpose of reducing the national debt.

My bill rewards fiscal responsibility by giving employees a direct benefit for saving taxpayer dollars. At the same time, it will address one of the biggest problems facing our Country—

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

the national debt. I think this is an important step toward restoring the financial security of our Nation.

GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS EDUCATION ACT—MATH AND SCIENCE TEACHER RECRUITMENT ACT

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing two bills aimed at improving the quality of education in areas that need immediate attention. One would provide incentives for prospective teachers to train in math and the sciences; the other would increase opportunities for gifted students from all backgrounds to succeed.

The Math and Science Teacher Recruitment Act would allow forgiveness of up to \$10,000 in federal student loans for math and science majors who teach in a middle or secondary school for up to six years. Beginning with the successful completion of the third year of teaching, educators could have \$2,500 in loans forgiven each year, up to a total of \$10,000. This bill will provide an incentive for students majoring in math, the sciences, engineering, and technology to choose education as a career. Students are failing to grasp basic math and science concepts because they are being taught by teachers who are not grounded in the field. Last year, only 41 percent of our students learned math from teachers who majored the subject in college. This bill helps to ensure that our children will be taught by teachers who have extensive knowledge of mathematics and the sciences.

I am also reintroducing the Gifted and Talented Students Education Act, with my colleagues, Representatives ETHERIDGE, MORELLA, BALDACCI, BURR, MOORE, ALLEN, MINK, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, FILNER, ENGLISH, BOUCHER, BONO, BERKLEY, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, STARK, and Mr. WHITFIELD. The measure provides grants to State educational agencies to identify gifted and talented students from all economic, ethnic and racial backgrounds—including students with limited English proficiency, those who live in low-income areas and students with disabilities. The measure authorizes State educational agencies to distribute competitive grants to local educational agencies, which will allow them to develop and expand gifted and talented education programs. This bill will ensure that all gifted children will have access to challenging programs designed to develop and enhance their gifts and reach their full potential.

Mr. Speaker, we must ensure our children are ready and able to take on the challenges of the new economy. I strongly encourage my colleagues to cosponsor these important pieces of legislation and work toward their passage.

February 7, 2001

RECOGNIZING RABBI DAVID WHITE FOR ACHIEVING A DOCTOR OF DIVINITY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to recognize an outstanding member of our Napa community, Rabbi David White, for his 25 years of service as a rabbi and for achieving a Doctor of Divinity degree.

Rabbi White was raised in San Francisco, the only son of Rabbi Saul E. White, who served as Rabbi of Congregation Beth Shalom for 48 years. After his Bar Mitzvah at Beth Shalom, Rabbi David White began his journey by attending Camp Tel Yehuda in New York at the age of 17. The camp was a Young Judaea academic summer program providing leadership in Israel, Zionism and youth programming.

Entering the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1970, David was ordained a Conservative Rabbi five years later. In 1977, Rabbi White obtained his first pulpit, Congregation Kol Shofar in Tiburon consisting of 45 families. Rabbi White left in 1991 after the Congregation had grown to 200 families.

After 14 dedicated years of service to the synagogue, Rabbi White entered the business world, creating Relationship Resources Unlimited, establishing awareness of partnership and collaboration. Since 1993, he has been working at both Congregation Beth Shalom as a rabbi and at Relationship Resources Unlimited.

Rabbi White was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Community Foundation of the Napa Valley, a program of philanthropy dedicated to meeting the needs of many worthy groups and causes. In addition, Rabbi White is the Executive Director of the Wine Spirit, exploring the relationship between the wine industry and spirituality, and an active member of the Napa Interfaith Council.

On March 14, 2001, Rabbi White will be honored by the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York with an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Rabbi David White for his enthusiastic participation in and generous contributions to the Napa community, his 25 years of dedicated service to the Rabbinate and for the monumental goal of attaining the Doctor of Divinity degree.

TO BILL AND MARY KOCH, CUSTOMERS WERE FAMILY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bill and Mary Koch of Bear Creek Township, Pennsylvania, who recently closed their beloved Koch's Deli in Wilkes-Barre after 20 years of excellent service.

For more than 10 years, my district office was located next door to Koch's Deli, and almost every day that I was working from